Supreme Court in the matter of Civil Writ Petition No. 1141/88 has also directed State Governments to set up regular independent District Fora depending upon the work load.

640. *[Transferred to 4th March, 1994]*

Protection of PDS from free flow of food stuff

641. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether or not free flow of food stuff and essential commodities will affect supply for P.D.S. particularly for poor people and those in remote areas;

(b) whether the adverse effect of the free movement of food stuffs and essential commodities has been fully assessed; and

(c) if so, what corrective steps are proposed to be taken to protect the P.D.S.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c). The free movement of foodgrains and other essential commodities will not affect supply for PDS since commodities for PDS are being met from stocks available in the Central Pool. The decision to treat the entire country as a single food zone for the movement of foodgrains has been taken only after ensuring that it does not have any adverse effect.

उचित दर की दुकानों पर चावल के मूल्य

642. **मौलाना ओबैदुल्ला खान आजमी:** क्या नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि दिल्ली में उचित दर की दुकानों पर उपभोक्ताओं से चावल का अच्छी किस्म का मूल्य वसूल कर उन्हें घटिया किस्म का चावल दिया जाता है;

(ख) क्या सरकार ने इस संबंध में कोई अध्ययन / सर्वेक्षण किया है;

(ग) दिल्ली में उचित दर की दुकानों पर कौन-कौन सी किस्मों के चावल उपलब्ध कराए जाते हैं तथा उनके मूल्य क्या-क्या हैं; और

(घ) सरकार इस मामले में क्या कार्यवाही कर रही है?

नागरिक पूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री और वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कमालुद्दीन अहमद): (क) राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र, दिल्ली की सरकार ने सूचित किया है कि ऐसी कोई घटना उनकी जानकारी में नहीं आई है।

(ख) जी नहीं।

(ग) दिल्ली में उचित दर की दुकानों के जरिए तीन किस्मों का चावल, अर्थात कॉमन, फाइन व सुपर फाइन उपलब्ध कराया जाता है। चावल की इन किस्मों का उपभोक्ता मूल्य प्रति कि०ग्राम 5.73 रु०, 6.57 रु० व 6.90 रु० है।

(घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Scheme to ameliorate the grievances against price hike

643. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to launch any scheme to ameliorate the grievances of the common people in the context of the rise in prices of common consumption goods; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Consumer redressal cases

644. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3507 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 23rd August, 1993 and state:

(a) the number of cases pending for disposal at the end of the year;

(b) the number of cases filed and disposed of by District Consumer Fora and State Commission in the year 1993;

(c) the number of cases which are pending before each District Consumer Fora and State Commission till date; and

(d) whether Government propose to constitute one more District Consumer Forum to reduce the pendency and also make redressal of consumer grievances more easy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Number of cases pending for disposal in Delhi State

Comission ---------- 941
No. of cases pending in District Forum I ---------- 4072
No. of cases pending in District Forum II ---------- 3093

(b) No. of cases filed in State Commission in 1993 ---------- 685
No. of cases disposed of in State Commission ---------- 456
No. of cases filed in District Forum I in 1993 ---------- 3320
No. of cases disposed of in Delhi Forum I ---------- 1997
No. of cases filed in District Forum II in 1993 ---------- 3522
No. of cases disposed of in District Forum II ---------- 2189

(c) No. of cases pending before State Commission ---------- 929
No. of cases pending before District Forum I ---------- 4104
No. of cases pending before District Forum II ---------- 3238

(d) The Consumer Protection Act, 1986 has been amended to empower the State Governments/UT Administration to set up more than one District Forums wherever considered necessary. Therefore the decision to set up one more forum rests exclusively with the State Government.

Food-grains take off from PDS

645. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the take off of foodgrains from the Public Distribution System has fallen substantially;

(b) if so, what is the percentage of fall in the take off of foodgrains from PDS both in the urban and rural areas in the country; and

(c) what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) There has been a reduction in the offtake of foodgrains through the Public Distribution System (PDS) in 1993 as